

Lower Yolo Bypass Planning Forum

June 25, 2008 Tour Status Report

Description of the Event:

The Lower Yolo Bypass Planning Forum (Forum) is funded by the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and is sponsored by the Delta Protection Agency and Yolo Basin Foundation. It is managed and facilitated by the California State University Sacramento, Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP). The Forum held its project launch field tour and barbeque on June 25th, 2008. The tour consisted of a boat tour with facilitated presentations and discussions at select locations throughout the Lower Bypass. The topics discussed included:

- Flood management issues
- Prospect/Ryer Islands management challenges
- Sacramento Deepwater Ship Channel/Port of Sacramento
- Liberty Island/Prospect Slough conditions and challenges
- Recreation in the Lower Bypass
- Emergency Response issues in the Lower Bypass/No Man's Land Fire Protection District
- Little Holland Tract conditions
- Private restoration efforts on Liberty Island
- The "Stairstep Levee" north of Liberty Island
- Yolo Ranch and potential restoration efforts by Westlands Water District
- Reclamation Districts 2068 and 2098 and associated levee maintenance
- Water diversions in the Lower Bypass/Barker Slough
- Ecological considerations and options for state agencies and others
- City of Rio Vista conditions and concerns
- Legislative issues
- Mosquito and vector control issues

After the boat tour, Forum participants reconvened at the DFG Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area headquarters in Davis for additional presentations and a barbeque dinner.

The event culminated in a facilitated discussion in which the tour participants were asked to list some of the major problems facing the Lower Bypass, viable options/solutions to these problems, options of concern, and technical needs to move forward. Upon listing some of the major problems and potential solutions, the participants were asked whether they and their organizations saw value in continued stakeholder discussions and whether they could tentatively commit to a stakeholder process designed to develop a mutually beneficial management plan for the Lower Bypass. The overwhelming majority of the participants agreed that the process would be beneficial, and they committed to continuing with the Forum.

Next Steps for the Forum:

1. Staff from CCP will consolidate the materials and discussions from the tour into a comprehensive summary of the event.
2. A formal membership roster will be developed by Forum staff and circulated for review to Forum participants.

3. Meetings with each individual tour participant will be held to further develop the problems and solutions discussed during the dinner.
4. A draft charter/set of operating rules will be developed to provide direction to all future Forum proceedings. All Forum participants will be directed to review and comment on the charter/rules at their first meeting.
5. 1-2 plenary meetings with Forum participants are expected to take place each month. CCP will develop a meeting schedule through the end of year for approval and discussion by the Forum at its first meeting.

Lower Yolo Bypass Planning Forum

June 25th, 2008 Tour Participant List

Tour Participants and Speakers

Dave Brown, Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District
Gilbert Cosio, MBK Engineers
Elly Fairclough , Office of Congressman Mike Thompson
Dave Feliz, Department of Fish and Game
Mike Hardesty, Reclamation District 2068/2098
Lauren Hastings, CALFED
Tom Hester, Ryer Island
Butch Hodgkins, Central Valley Flood Protection Board
Brad Hubbard, US Bureau of Reclamation
Jack Keuchler, Reclamation District 2060
Marianne Kirkland, Department of Water Resources
Barbara McDonnell, Department of Water Resources
Commissioner Mike McGowan, Delta Protection Commission
Julia Mclver, Yolo County
Brian Monaghan, Wildlands, Inc.
David Okita, Solano County Water Agency
Tom Scheeler, Port of Sacramento
Brooke Schlenker, US Army Corps of Engineers
Curt Schmutte, Metropolitan Water District
Melinda Terry, North Delta Water Agency
Susan Treabess, Office of Assemblywoman Lois Wolk
Erik Vink, Trust for Public Land
Assemblywoman Lois Wolk, California State Assembly

Planning Forum Staff

Ann Brice, Yolo Basin Foundation
Brad Burkholder, Department of Fish and Game
Suzanne Butterfield, Delta Protection Commission
Dave Ceppos, Center for Collaborative Policy
Robin Kulakow, Yolo Basin Foundation
Sam Magill, Center for Collaborative Policy
Alex Westhoff, Delta Protection Commission